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brief introducing LB 402, which is the deficit bill introduced by the Speaker on behalf of the Governor. We do have a committee amendment to talk about, and I will talk about that at the appropriate time to list the amount of deficits.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Chair would now recognize Senator Wehrbein to open on the committee amendments.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. This is the deficit bill we're starting out with this morning. If you can look at your agenda, you'll see generally the order. The mainline appropriations bill will be LB 407. It's down about three or four. This one is the deficit. If you'd like to learn more detail about the deficit bill, it's on page 78 of your...I'm going to call it the goldenrod manual. On page 78 it lists the summary listing of General Fund deficit items. The largest one, as you can see, is in the child welfare shortfall of about \$10 million for public assistance programs, mostly for child welfare. The second largest one is in Corrections of \$8,436,695 for inmate medical per diem. And then it goes on, as I talked about yesterday, in the deficit of the homestead exemption program of \$3,400,000, and on down the line: state prisoner reimbursement owed to counties of \$1 million plus; use information technology savings for court operations; change in depreciation charges; various things down through there in smaller amounts that we had to spend a total, for the deficits, \$22,198,352. I would entertain questions if there are. For those of you that may not know, the deficit is in this current year's budget that items that have come in, in most cases over last year's expectations, and when we crafted the budget. It is not uncommon to have this in Health and Human Services and in Corrections, in areas of entitlements, because it's difficult to estimate the use of these particular budget items, and so we have an annual request for deficits to reimburse the agencies for the money that they have spent in their needed...for their needed obligations.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Further discussion? Seeing none, the Chair would recognize Senator Wehrbein to close.